Chairman Linda W. Cropp at the request of the Mayor

## A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

## IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to authorize the Department of Employment Services to retain a former employee who received a retirement incentive, under a personal services contract, as an unemployment compensation claims examiner to assist in the determination and administration of unemployment compensation claims filed after September 8, 2001 and before March 10, 2002, if the former employee is retained within 5 years of retirement and is deemed critical to the examination and administration of unemployment compensation claims, and possesses the necessary skills to assist in unemployment claim examination and administration.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Unemployment Compensation Program Services Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2001."

## Sec. 2. Findings

- (a) Over the last several years, the District government has implemented a number of retirement incentive and voluntary severance incentive programs.
- (b) Most of these programs offered a cash incentive with a stipulation that employees who accepted the incentive payment would not be eligible for reemployment with the District government for 5 years after the date of separation, or hired or retained

as a sole source consultant or personal services contractor for 5 years after the date of separation.

- (c) The Department of Employment Services now finds that it may not have a sufficient number of employees to cope with the increase in the number of unemployment claims and the temporary expansion of unemployment compensation services caused by the events of September 11, 2001.
- (d) The specialized skills involved in unemployment compensation claims examination and administration and the temporary nature of expanded unemployment compensation services do not allow for the hiring and training of new staff to provide these services.
- (e) The lack of adequate administrative staff will negatively impact the delivery of unemployment compensation benefits and services to those unemployed after September 11, 2001.
- (f) Unless legislative action is immediately taken to provide an exception for these former employees, there will be no assurance that unemployment compensation services will be provided to claimants in an expeditious and efficient manner.
- Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Unemployment Compensation Services Emergency Act of 2001 be adopted after a single reading.
  - Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.